Titusville Amateur Radio Club
T. A. R. C
Titusville, Florida

Newsletter of the Titusville Amateur Radio Club

MAY 2003

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Bud Hughes, K4CWG

Sherry and I are looking forward to the Dayton Ohio Hamfest. Since I have been to the Buckeye State and attended the ham show, I figured it is my duty to explain to Sherry just how beautiful the state of Ohio really is. Now we will enjoy the trip and attend the activities together.

An ongoing battle in regards to the tower height issue, I would be remiss if I did not congratulate and thank Bob W4TAT for his efforts in winning an exemption or some relief in the tower/antenna height restriction as currently on the books.

We are in a most critical time and your help is very important. Bob needs our support more now than ever. Please continue to assist Bob in whatever way he asks.

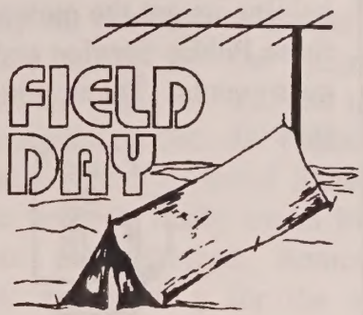
On April the 30th Sherry and I were blessed with the arrival of a brand new grand son. Unspoiled as he is, our track record of success in spoiling our other 3 grand kids, I see no reason why we will not be successful in doing the same with this little fellow.

Unfortunately on the same day as the arrival of our grandson we received notification of the demise of my big brother and friend Cuz W4ZS. The flowers, cards, condolences and expression of love from you gives us strength to bare our loss. Thank you and may God bless you.

The approval for the use of Well Field # 3 (same as last year) for Field Day activities scheduled the weekend of June 28th and 29th is pending.

Field day will be one of the prime subjects at our next club meeting May 27th. Hope to see you there. Bring a friend.

73's and 88's



MAY'S PROGRAM

By Ozzie Osband, N4SCY

The May program for the Titusville Amateur Radio Club will be a discussion of plans for the upcoming Amateur Radio Field Day, the weekend of June 28th.

FLORIDA HAM INFORMATION

Bill Briton, KB4VOL, a Contributing Editor for Cyberskip Digest has a website on the internet that has a wealth of information for Florida Hams; new, seasoned or those new to the area. His Florida Ham Website is:

http:bellsouthpwp.net/k/b/kb4vol

Special thanks to Paul WD4EBA for sharing the above information.

DISASTER & SAFETY SHOWCASE

Sponsored by Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

This Saturday—May 17, 2003
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Melbourne Auditorium

Don't miss this excellent opportunity to up date yourself on disaster preparedness and meet the people who will be there in times of need to help you. For information contact: Mary Bolin, Brevard Co. Emergency Mgmt at 637-4088 or Mary Oliver, Showcase Chairperson at 729-8303.

BASICS OF USING SOLAR ENERGY IN A DISASTER WORKSHOP PVD-101

MAY 30, 2003
Florida Solar Energy Center

Sponsored by the Florida Energy Office/Department of Community Affairs, and the Solar Energy Center

Location: Florida Solar Energy Center, 1679 Clearlake Road, Cocoa, Florida

For more information:
(321) 638-1000 or
www.fsec.ucf.edu

MAY BEARS' REPORT

By Stephanie Phillips, K4MVO

The BEARS will meet on May 13th, 7 pm, County EOC in Rockledge. Talk-in Freq: 147.135. I hope to see a bunch of you there. The ARES badging will NOT take place on the 12th. We have to cancel because Mac, KD4GPJ, will be at the EOC for a Launch Support Effort. We will announce the next opportunity for getting your ARES Badge. There will be a Launch Net, about 1/2 hour prior to Launch, on 147.135. Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events and activities:

1. **May 13-14**, State Hurricane Drill, EOC, the entire State of Florida, listen on 146.91. A bunch of us will be going to the EOC, let Ed, KG4KVO, or me know if you are interested in joining us. Car Pool?
2. **May 17** VOAD Showcase, Melbourne, POC: Rev. David Harris, K0TAX, VOAD Chairman. Who wants to help me hand out brochures and talk up the hobby!
3. **Brevard County CERT Drill/ Roundup. May 31st** at the FIT, Melbourne campus, South Babcock, all day, 2 sessions, one in the morning, another in the afternoon, POC: Nancy Smith, Office of Emergency Management. BEARS COMM II, will be there to support this effort.
4. **May 31st**, Kiwanis' Disaster Preparedness Show, Merritt Square Mall, MI, 10 am - 2 pm. If you'd like to help hand out brochures and talk up the Hobby, please let me know. We can use your support and involvement at these Public Awareness activities.
5. **June 9-13**, Governor's Hurricane Conference, Tampa.
6. **June 28 & 29th** Field Day.

Hope to see you out at the Well Field! Brevard County **ARES/ RACES nets on Wednesdays, at 9 am and again at 7 pm,** on 147.135. Please remember that Volunteer Emergency Communicators are a big part of the total Homeland Security effort. When Ed and I ask for volunteers, we're not asking for a whole day, just an hour or two, so maybe another volunteer can take a break. Please consider helping us get the message out at these Public Service and Awareness events. Thank you for your support.

NEW FEATURE ON THE TARC WEBSITE

by Ozzie Osband, N4SCY

The Titusville Amateur Radio Club newsletter is now being put up on the club website. The current newsletter will always be at **http://TitusvilleARC.org/ newsletters/-current/** (in case you want to set a bookmark) and older issues will be archived at **http://TitusvilleARC.org/ newsletters/** . Navigation buttons at the bottom of each page will take you back to a previous page, forward to the next page, or back to the club home page.

If you have any other suggestions to improve the club website, please drop me an e-mail and let me know. And be sure to send me your e-mail updates as well, so I can forward mail from your Call Sign @ the club, to your regular e-mail address. N4SCY@TitusvilleARC.Org

APRIL MINUTES

By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

After the usual opening ceremonies of Pledge of Allegiance, moment of silence, introduction of members and guests, Bill Eppley, W4SDB played Happy Birthday and several other selections on his harmonica.

Special speaker for the evening was Joan Heller who is Brevard County Emergency Domestic Security Coordinator. She told club members what is presently being done and things she plans to accomplish to make sure that Brevard County is safe from terrorists and safe during all forms of natural disasters. Her presentation was very interesting and as always, Amateur Radio Operators will be called upon to help out in these emergencies.

W4TAT Bob Keim brought members up-to-date on the fight to exclude amateur radio operators from the new county tower ordnance. There is still much to be done, and he urged all members to participate in the fight.

TREASURER REPORT

By Becky Lee KF4HTB

Beginning Bal.	$1,807.27
Deposits	2,132.68
Total Income	$3,939.95
Expenditures	953.90
Balance (4/30/03)	$2,986.05

The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.

- William James

BREVARD COUNTY TOWER HEIGHT ISSUE

by Bob Keim, W4TNT

As many of you are already aware, on 6 May the commission voted 4-1 with Commissioner Nancy Higgs being the only NO vote, to move the exemption for licensed amateurs forward for two public comments hearings and an LPA hearing. If there is little or no opposition at those hearings and a large show of amateurs and residents in support of the exemption it is likely we will gain TOTAL exemption for licensed amateurs. We need to keep up the hard work and the fight as the battle is still in progress and we need to keep up the pressure to prevail!

The next step would be to thank the four commissioners that worked to move the matter forward, especially Sue Carlson and Ron Pritchard who were instrumental in moving the matter forward. Please email and call the four commissioners that voted yes in the matter and thank them for the support. Then Email and call Commissioner Higgs and let her know politely how saddened you are with her lack of support and refusal to acknowledge what the people want versus her own opinion.

We then need to keep up the pressure by continuing to email and call from now till the next hearing. We need a large showing of amateurs at the LPA hearing and the next two public comments hearings. **Don't let your guard down the matter is nowhere near over!** I was particularly hopeful that we would have had a larger turnout than we actually had. I thank those that showed for support but those that did not, there is NOTHING more important than this issue if you enjoy and plan to participate in amateur radio activities. This rewrite for exemption will not only set our county in line with good policy for the future of amateur radio but will add to the building precedence statewide and across the United States, so the issue is really much bigger than just Brevard. Remember you are fighting for the entire Amateur Radio Community of the world and you ALL share a responsibility in defending the rights of amateurs worldwide. If you won't do it for yourself or other amateurs, what about your children or grandchildren that may want join the ranks and participate in amateur radio in the future? If we fail now, its the next generation, the kids that will suffer. The next generation of amateurs may never know what it's like to rag chew around the world or to participate in effective emergency communications and enjoy the satisfaction of helping their communities. With smaller antennas we run the risk of increased RF, more energy in the atmosphere, more power to make the contact if we can make it at all. With bigger antennas that same communication may be possible QRP and with safer levels of RF in the environment.

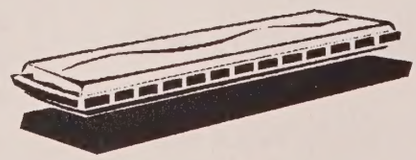
WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Origin of HAM Speak—Fact, Legends, Myths???
http://www.ac6v.com/73.htm
Lots of Scrabble and crossword dope for game players. Special thanks to Ozzie, N4SCY for sharing the site with me.

Find modifications & tips on over 700 ham radios at
www.mods.dk
Thanks Ted, N1XVR/C6A.

KSC SURPLUS SALES

National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA)
Auction dates: Jun 4, Aug 6, Nov 5 and Dec 10. For more information visit their website: **http://surplus.ksc.nasa.gov or call the sales information line: (321) 867-7605**
Special thanks to Fred, K4DII for sharing the above information. .



HARMONICA SENSATION

Listen to Bill Eppley, W2SDB at the new Publix in Merritt Island from 4:15 to 5:00 every Friday or nightly at the Our Savior Church Fair in Cocoa Beach.

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ABELL'S ANECDOTES
By Pike Abell W4EPU

Speaking of worms. Part 1. – In the state of Florida, one can find almost any type of festival. - Seafood festival, Strawberry festival, Corn festival, etc. But one festival which gets very little notoriety is the "Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin Festival". It was held this year on April 12, in the little town of Sopchoppy, near Tallahassee. This festival is their big social event of the year.

Worm gruntin' is an age old practice of driving a "stob" (A 3 foot long stake) into the ground a foot or so deep and rubbing it with a flat ruler, 2 inches wide and 2 feet long. For some unknown reason the vibration thus generated causes earthworms to come to the surface.

The main event of the festival is the worm gruntin' competition. Well, when those grunters get going, those big long flat fishing worms can't resist the good vibrations, so they come out of the ground to see what the heck is going on. Too late! They are grabbed up by the contestants. Whoever gathers the most worms in 30 minutes wins $50.00 and a new set of Worm Gruntin tools. There are other ways to get these worms out of the ground, but 'gruntin' has proved to be the most challenging and less traumatic.

This festival also includes a "Worm Gruntin' Ball", which is highly attended. No mention is made about the sale of food, but who could eat after looking at all of those worms

Speaking of worms. Part 2. Why would anyone buy fishing worms when they are in abundance everywhere? They may be obtained by digging. worm farming or, as described above, gruntin. However, there are pros and cons to worm farming which I shall attempt to explain by the following example:

Several years ago Clara and I had a place at Baxter Point on the St Johns River near Hatbill Park. We had a boat, but seldom used it for fishing because it was so easy just to walk a hundred feet or so and fish off the bank. We used either minnows or worms whichever the fish seemed to like at the time – but mostly worms. All too frequently we were buying worms at $2.50 a crack. That is when I got the bright idea of raising our own. I built a worm farm out of concrete blocks. The inside dimensions were 6 feet long, 18 inches wide and 18 inches deep. I filled it with a mixture of peat moss and top soil and dumped in two boxes of store bought worms. We continuously fed them with fresh vegetable table scraps.

A year later we had worms galore. Only thing, by then, we treated them like pets and were becoming attached to them. When digging a hole to bury vegetables it would expose some worm which I would actually recognize.

But alas, it was time to harvest the crops. I filled a Styrofoam cup with worms and dirt. Clara and I walked down to the river bank with the worms, a bucket of minnows, fishing gear and a couple of folding chairs. We settled down for a mornings of tranquility at our favorite fishing hole. I pulled a big fat worm from the cup. Low and behold, it was none other than Josephine. I retrieved another. It was Sam – then Gertrude. I carefully put them back into the cup and immediately returned them to their farm. Thereafter we only used either store bought worms, minnows or artificial bait. I am not about to stick my ittsy bittsy pet wormies with an ugly ol' fishhook.

73s & 88s

CLUB OFFICERS

President:
Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779

Vice President:
Ozzie Osband N4SCY 321-LIFTOFF

Secretary/Treasurer:
Becky Lee KF4HTB 267-9375

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208
Ed Summersett WA3FKC 269-5890
Hank Phillips AA4HP 264-2492
Ralph Hall AE4LE 267-9418

CLUB INFORMATION

Meetings: Monthly on the 4th Tuesday at 7 PM at the Jaycee Building , 405 N. Singleton Ave.

Next Meeting Date: **28 May**

Newsletter Editor: KE4WQD Cori Summersett WA3FKC@amsat.org
Deadline for the next input to the newsletter is 16 June 2003

Nets:

Red Eye– Sundays 6 AM – 7 AM on 7.228 MHz

Traders – Mondays at 10 AM on 146.91

Friendship – Tuesdays at 6:30 PM on 146.91

Mosquito-Wednesdays at 7 PM on 28.333

VIP – Thursdays at 10 AM on 146.91

REPEATER CUSTODIAN BOARD

Les Griner K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Mike Hensley W4LOV (444.15) 639-1553
Ozzie Osband N4SCY (Packet-Rose Node 145.09) 794-0215
Ken Denman KD4HNW (146.775) 269-5711

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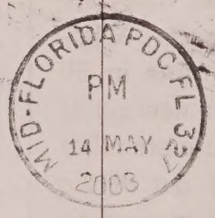

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 176
(124 regular, 41 family,
8 honorary, 3 other)

NEW MEMBERS:

KG4YNO ROBERT MEEKS
KG4WTX THOMAS FULLER
W3QIE TOMAS RATNER

RENEWALS:

K4EOS CLYDE LEE
KF4HTB BECKY LEE
KF4IGN DORIS GIONET
N4MCZ ROD IWAN
KF4MUV PATTY KING
KG4NDD DAVID MARQUARDT
KT4SY EDDIE GASS
KC4VIO JOSE RAMOS
KC4VIN CAROL RAMOS

MAY'S BIRTHDAYS:

5/01 KE4MFX KAY JORDAN
5/02 W9LSD DICK DUELL
5/07 KG4NDD DAVID MARGUARDT
5/10 N1PAW JOE BONARDI
5/11 K4WPW PAUL WYNN
5/13 KE4LNS DON MCLEAN
5/15 K5UNT MAL HARPER
5/16 WD4EBA PAUL BERNHARDT
5/17 KF4JI CARL CHRISTIAN
5/19 K4JDV JANET VAN ALSTINE
5/20 K2TNT GEORGE FISCHER
5/23 KE4MXJ PEDRO LORENZI
5/24 K4JYX JOHN ADAMS
5/24 KG4WLC MIKE STALLINGS
5/25 KE4BBJ CHARLIE PROSER